

THE LARK

DECEMBER 2018

Meadowhill.net



MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

Think Globally, Act Locally - That is a motto which many conservationists say we all should put into practice. I know many of you are enthusiastic about conservation. Here are things we can easily do right here at Meadow Hill.

Our utility bills continue to rise. As I have been reviewing and paying our electric bills this past year, I have noticed a trend. Our usage (the meter amount) has continued to go up for some of our garages. As much as 30% to 50% for some buildings. This could amount to \$15 per month for the 10 buildings where I have seen increases, or \$1800 per year. This is a common charge which we all share. My thought is that lights inside our garages are being left on for extended periods of time. And they are probably old incandescent bulbs as well.

If we could replace the old bulbs with LEDs and make sure we turn them off when we leave, I think we could save a good portion of that \$1800.

For that matter, if we could save 3% of our \$113,500 budgeted utility charges, that would be \$3405.00.

Other ideas which I'm sure most of you have heard of are:

- ✓ Fix leaky faucets; limit use by not running when using for dishes, brushing teeth etc.; take shorter showers to save on our water and sewer usage. Water is a common charge for all.
- ✓ Be sure to turn off lights that you turn on in the clubhouse and Hollister House. And return thermostat settings back after using the two buildings.
- ✓ Make sure only recyclables are placed into blue bins. Allwaste will charge us more if we mix refuse with recyclables. There is a guide for acceptable items available.

Let's all try to save a little more. Having \$3000 - \$4000 more for amenities and activities could be enjoyed by all! Larry Abbott, Meadow Hill Treasurer



Meadow Hill Holliday Party December 8th from 5pm until 8pm at the Clubhouse.

RSVP Deadline: November 30, 860-633-4556

Payment must be delivered to

Barbara Masse, unit 203 no later than December 6th

Make Checks payable to Meadow Hill Social Club

Last Call!

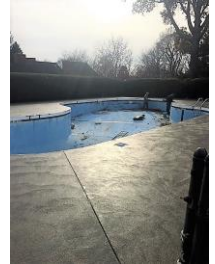
ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING REMINDER

Budget meeting will be held at 7pm in the Clubhouse December 6th. Snow date is December 12th.

POOL UPDATE



The pool reconstruction is on schedule. If you haven't seen it, the new concrete deck has been poured. Four new skimmers, tile, ladders, hand rail, handicapped lift footings and two new LED pool lights have been installed. Due to the quickly approaching winter weather, the painting of the pool, installation of replacement fencing and shrubbery will be done in the spring. We are also investigating a new gate



and more secure access to the pool area. So, this major community project has made great progress, with some still to be done early next year. We are very pleased with the work done by Splash Pools and thank them for their professionalism.

Introducing Friends of the River



Friends of the River is an ad-hoc committee established by the Board of Directors 6 years ago. The mission statement describes why this committee exists: "Develop a responsible and consistent system of management and stewardship of Meadow Hills' most valuable asset."

Toward that end, constant and consistent efforts have been used to try to control the invasive species that were taking over our wetlands. The

accomplishments to date are varied, with some being spectacular. Walking up from the river, you can see flowers spring and fall. While invasive species are a headache from Phragmites to dodder, they will require attention for a long time. An additional area of focus includes the improvements of value enhancements to the Meadow Hill community. For 2019, we plan to continue to implement our mission statement within available resources as approved in the budget.

Committee members include: Roger Bouchard (chair), Larry Abbott, Marge DeMay, Moira Finnegan, Norman Gordon, Donna Goselin, Daren Hill, Christine Keating, Bob Kolwicz, Ed Litke, Jane Marcin, Lynn and Beverly Willsey.

Introducing the Lark Committee

Two months ago, we announced that Judy Soule was retiring as Lark Editor but will continue to be a contributing writer. We have formed a committee to continue the important work of making The Lark a great source of information to the community. Here is the team: Denise Weeks, Norma Flynn, Lydia Zimmerman, Judy Soule, Mike Proulx, Elaine Lembo and Gene Flynn. We welcome anyone in MH to offer ideas, articles, pictures or links to make the Lark a vibrant news resource. Submit your ideas to Gene Flynn, MH Board Secretary.



Greenhouse Update

Good news! A new heater has been installed in the greenhouse to better protect our tender plants. If the temperature drops dangerously within the greenhouse, an outside light will give warning – a great new protection! If you use the greenhouse, remember to water your own plants.

Old Man Winter is upon us!



When we expect cold temperatures and accumulating snow PLEASE

- Move your car away from the parking areas next to garages before the storm begins.
- Do not park in front of a garage door.
- Do not park in the three spaces in the island by the Clubhouse.
- Remove your entrance mat(s) they can be drawn into the snow blower and cause damage or shred your mat. After the storm ends, when plowing and snow blowing are completed, you may replace your entrance mat.
- Turn on roof-heating cables (if you have them) when snow begins to fall. They can be turned off when the roof is clear of snow. Use of the cables reduces the risk of you and/or Meadow Hill suffering ice damage.
- Arrange to have roof-heating cables turned on if you will be away during potentially snowy weather.
- In very cold weather open cabinet doors under sinks on outside walls to let in warmer air.
- On very cold nights let faucets drip to keep pipes from freezing.
- If you're able to do it, turn off the water valve to outside faucets.
- Don't forget to water plants in the greenhouse.

EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE

During the holiday season, we like to express our sincere appreciation to Darien and Mike for going above and beyond for us this year.

You may express your gratitude with a holiday gift in either of the following ways:

Contribute towards a group Holiday Bonus. Please make checks payable to "Meadow Hill, Inc." with the notation "Holiday Bonus". The checks should be delivered to Sheila Duncan at Imagineers (635 Farmington Ave., Hartford, CT 06105) no later than Wednesday, December 12th.

Contribute individually by making a personal gift to them.



SAFETY REMINDERS



Leash Reminder - Dogs must be carried or on a leash at all times in common areas. It's a rule...but also a safety issue for many of our fellow residents.

Speed Limit - We have many walkers in Meadow Hill – even in winter. To avoid surprises... and a possible tragedy: drivers, please observe the 15MPH speed limit; walkers please walk against the traffic.

Kitchen Cleanliness – Think your kitchen is sparkling clean and germ free? Maybe or maybe not. Check out this article from Health Magazine – 8 Germiest Things in Your Kitchen at www.health.com/home/germiest-kitchen-spots.

SOCIAL HAPPENINGS



Our
**October 31st
Halloween Party**
had a solid turnout and was
great fun. We would like to give
thanks to Sandy O'Leary and her
committee – Sue O'Keefe, Hazel
and Dick Brimley, Kim Trela,
Dana Kubachka and Linda Fay for
their efforts. Here are some
photos of the event.



CHRISTMAS CAROLLING



Join us on December 14th at 3:00pm for Christmas caroling. We will meet at the flag pole, with caroling books supplied. Refreshments will be served at the Clubhouse afterwards.

Please RSVP by December 8th to
Sandy O'Leary at 860-916-0740.
Let's share the holiday spirit!!

POKER ANYONE?

**Looking for Poker players Both men and women!!
5 or more, low stakes.**

Meet up on Thursday, January 10, 2019

1:00pm at the Hollister house.

Call Emil Ostrowski, 7 Hollister Way N at 860-781-8026.



KEY DATES

Dec. 3 Hanukkah	December 4 – Book Club
December 5 – Game Night, Hollister House	December 7 – Pearl Harbor Remembrance
December 19 – Board Meeting	December 25 – Christmas
December 26 – Kwanza	December 31 – New Year's Eve

MEADOW HILL RESIDENT NOTES

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of Monica Stafford (#242), who passed away on October 20th.

Game Night

First Wednesday from 7-9pm at the clubhouse. We'll teach you or bring your own. For more information call Dale Carstens at 860-881-7901

Crafts and Needlework – If you enjoy knitting or crocheting and enjoy giving items to those in need, please contact Linda Fillion at 860-559-5504 or email Lfillion@cox.net for details and patterns. Items such as baby hats, booties, lap robes and prayer shawls are really appreciated by Middlesex Hospital on our monthly delivery.
the Club, please call Carol Fredrickson at 860-633-0158 or Suzanne Litke at 860-439-9611.

Book Club

The Book Club meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 1:00 at the Clubhouse. Everyone is welcome. If you would like to learn more about

Clubhouse Rentals

For all rentals and scheduling of the clubhouse or Hollister House, please contact Marge DeMay at 860-633-6599, Unit #90.

Clubhouse – The Clubhouse is open for all residents every day. Come enjoy the gym, play pool with a friend or check your email. In the event of a scheduled rental, board meeting, etc., the upstairs room will be closed.

Lark Submissions Please contact Gene Flynn at 860-212-7347 for more information on submitting articles and notices

MANAGEMENT COMPANY		
IMAGINEERS, LLC 635 Farmington Ave. Hartford, CT 06105 860-768-3419	Property Manager: Sheila Duncan	
	Assistant Manager: Kristen Vibberts	
BOARD OF DIRECTORS		
PRESIDENT Luther Weeks 860-918-2115	VICE PRESIDENT Cathy Wanat Unlisted	SECRETARY Gene Flynn 860-212-7347
TREASURER Larry Abbott 860-682-2543	DIRECTOR Ed Litke 860-430-9611	DIRECTOR Polly Labombard 860-977-9002
To Email Management staff or Board Member click on https://tinyurl.com/MHillContacts		
BOARD MEETINGS		
Monthly Board meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 1:30pm in the Clubhouse.	THE NEXT MEETING December 19th 1:30 PM IN THE CLUBHOUSE	Current and previous meeting minutes can be found at www.meadowhill.net Hard copy minutes are available at the clubhouse office one week following the meeting.
MEADOW HILL COMMITTEES		
Advisory committees play an important role in Meadow Hill. They provide information and work that improves Meadow Hill beyond what the Board and Manager can do without assistance. If you would like to contribute to making Meadow Hill even better or if you feel your views or those of your area are not fully represented on a Committee, consider joining a committee. Here is a list of current committee chairs.		
Budget: L. Abbott(C/L), Communications: G. Flynn (C/L) Grounds: M. Proulx(C), P. Labombard(L), Trees Subcommittee M. Bouchard(*),B. Kolwicz(*) Pool: K. Wanat(C/L) Greenhouse: S. MacGregor(C), L. Weeks(L)	Nominating: E. Litke(C/L) Amenities: K. Wanat(C/L) Social: S. O'Leary(C), L. Abbott(L) Stables E. Litke(L), N. Roberts, S. Crone Friends of the River: R. Bouchard (C), L. Abbott(L) Vegetable Garden: D. Fillian(C), L. Abbott(L) Maintenance: L. Weeks (C/L) Key: (C) – Chair, (L) – Liaison	
REQUESTS AND REPORTS TO THE BOARD		
Committees and Residents should submit agenda requests and reports to Imagineers 10 days before the monthly Board meeting. To email Board Members or submit work orders refer to the MeadowHill.net.		